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**2nd OF THE 503rd INFANTRY REGIMENT (AIRBORNE)
CONDUCTS AIR INSERTION TRAINING**

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo – Ninety soldiers from Battle Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne), conducted an air insertion exercise on Jan. 26 east of Kamenica.

The U.S. Army unit, based in Vicenza, Italy, is training in Kosovo as part of the month long Rapid Guardian exercise. Rapid Guardian showcases KFOR's ability, readiness and will to protect all ethnic groups in Kosovo.

The soldiers were inserted in three areas, similar to a triangle, and conducted a two-hour ground mission.

The air insertion exercise also included an air evacuation of the soldiers to Camp Monteith.

"The purpose of the exercise was to show our commitment to the citizens of Kosovo and to demonstrate how fast we react to an incident," said Capt. Eric Durham, a spokesman for the 2-503rd.

The air insertion exercise also demonstrated the unit's mission flexibility and its proficiency in air assault operations.